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April 20, 2006

Mr. H. Marshall Jarrett
Counsel
Office of Professional Responsibility
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 3266
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Jarrett:

I write to request an update on the status of your review into potentially unethical conduct by Justice Department officials in handling the CIA name leak investigation. The Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General had informed me that two complaints regarding such conduct had been forwarded to your office.

By way of background, Members of Congress had written to the Inspector General on two occasions raising questions about the handling of the CIA name leak investigation. On July 26, 2005, several Members of the House Judiciary Committee asked that the Inspector General determine whether Justice Department attorneys essentially permitted evidence to be destroyed by delaying their investigation into the CIA name leak. On August 17, 2005, Rep. Maurice Hinchey and I asked the Inspector General to investigate whether then-Attorney General John D. Ashcroft violated conflict of interest rules when he failed to recuse himself from, and was briefed on, the Department's name leak investigation. According to its August 25, 2005 response, the Inspector General forwarded these complaints to your office.

I would appreciate your reply as to the status of your inquiry. Please reply through the Judiciary Committee Democratic office, 2142 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 (tel: 202-225-6504; fax: 202-225-4423).

Sincerely,



John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member

Enclosures